

Open Heavens 22 July 2026 Today Devotional & Commentary

Description

The Open Heavens 22 July 2026 devotional for today is THE KEYS TO FREEDOM III.

This is a daily devotion written by Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

- **Read:** **RCCG Open Heavens 21 July 2026 Devotional**



OPEN HEAVENS 22 JULY 2026 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: THE KEYS TO FREEDOM III

MEMORISE

In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.
Psalm 18:6

READ: Psalm 3:1-4

Lord, how are they increased that trouble me! many are they that rise up against me.
2 Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. Selah.
3 But thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.
4 I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah.

RCCG OPEN HEAVENS 22 JULY 2026 TODAY MESSAGE

Over the past two days, I have discussed some of the steps that anyone who is under the devilâ??s yoke of bondage must take to become free. Today, I will conclude this series by highlighting why a person under the yoke of the devil should cry out to God for deliverance.

I am often surprised to see people being passive and uninterested when it is time to pray. Unfortunately, people who behave in this manner are only wasting their time and would hardly get any results. No one, let alone those who are suffering under the devilâ??s yoke, should be passive when it comes to prayer. This is because it is the effectual fervent prayer of the righteous that avails much (James 5:16), not the passive prayers.

For example, in Mark 10:46-52, if Bartimaeus had not cried to Jesus for help, he would have remained blind. Similarly, in Matthew 15:21-28, if the Canaanite woman had not gone to seek help from Jesus and persisted in her cry to Him, her daughter may never have been delivered.

David was a man who always cried out to God for deliverance when faced with battles. Many times in his Psalms, he wrote about crying out to the Lord for help. For example, in Psalm 3:4, he wrote, â??I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill.â?• Just as David cried unto the Lord with his voice, as a child of God, you must also learn to cry unto Him whenever you find yourself in distress.

Nobody can cry better or louder than you about any distressing situation you might find yourself in because you are the only one who knows where the shoe pinches. This is why people who are always running from one place to another in search of prayer contractors â?? people who will pray to God on their behalf â?? often stay in bondage for a long time. In todayâ??s memory verse, David said that he called upon God and cried unto Him in his distress, and God heard him out of His temple. God will never close His ears to a person who cries to Him genuinely and with a contrite heart (Psalm 51:17).

Beloved, you must never grow weary of praying whenever you feel burdened until God hears you; you must be willing to pay the price for freedom in the place of prayer. I pray that the Lord will answer you speedily every time you cry unto Him, in Jesusâ?? name.

KEY POINT

Those who cry out to God in their distress will experience His salvation.

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Isaiah 29-31

Open Heavens HYMN 27: WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

OPEN HEAVENS DEVOTIONAL 22 JULY 2026 COMMENTARY

MEMORISE: Psalm 18:6

> *â??In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.â?•*

This verse is Davidâ??s testimony of answered prayer in his moment of distress.

BIBLE READING: Psalm 3:1-4

This psalm was written when David fled from his son Absalom, who had stolen the hearts of Israel and was seeking to kill his own father.

The Problem with Passive Prayer

> *â??I am often surprised to see people being passive and uninterested when it is time to pray. Unfortunately, people who behave in this manner are only wasting their time and would hardly get any results.â?•*

Passive Prayer	Fervent Prayer
Uninterested, distracted, sleepy	Engaged, focused, alert
Mumbled, half-hearted	Desperate, earnest, sincere
Treats prayer as a ritual	Treats prayer as a lifeline
Little to no results	Avails much

> *â??No one, let alone those who are suffering under the devilâ??s yoke, should be passive when it comes to prayer. This is because it is the effectual fervent prayer of the righteous that avails much (James 5:16), not the passive prayers.â?•*

James 5:16 â?? *â??The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.â?•*

What â??Effectual Ferventâ?• Means	What It Is Not
Working (effectual)	Idle, passive
Passionate, earnest (fervent)	Cold, indifferent
Producing results (avails much)	Wasting time

If you are under the devilâ??s yoke, you cannot afford passive prayer. Your deliverance requires desperation. Your freedom requires fervency.

Bartimaeus: The Cry That Could Not Be Silenced

â??For example, in Mark 10:46-52, if Bartimaeus had not cried to Jesus for help, he would have remained blind.â?•

Bartimaeusâ??s Situation	His Action
Blind, begging by the roadside	Heard Jesus was passing by
The crowd rebuked him, told him to be quiet	He cried out all the more
He could have been passive	He shouted, â??Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!â?•

â??If Bartimaeus had not cried to Jesus for help, he would have remained blind.â?•

What Might Have Happened If He Were Passive	What Happened Because He Cried Out
Jesus would have passed by	Jesus stopped
He would have stayed blind	He received his sight
The crowdâ??s rebuke would have silenced him	He cried louder and got his miracle

Passive prayer would have cost Bartimaeus his sight. Fervent prayer opened his eyes.

The Canaanite Woman: The Cry That Persisted

â??Similarly, in Matthew 15:21-28, if the Canaanite woman had not gone to seek help from Jesus and persisted in her cry to Him, her daughter may never have been delivered.â?•

The Canaanite Womanâ??s Situation	Her Action
Her daughter was grievously vexed with a demon	She came to Jesus, crying, â??Have mercy on me, O Lordâ?•
Jesus initially answered her not a word	She did not give up
The disciples asked Jesus to send her away	She persisted
Jesus said, â??I am not sent but to the lost sheep of Israelâ?•	She worshiped Him and cried again
Jesus said, â??It is not meet to take the childrenâ??s bread and cast it to dogsâ?•	She answered, â??Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbsâ?•

â??If she had not persisted in her cry, her daughter may never have been delivered.â?•

Passive Response	Persistent Cry
Jesus was silent â?? she would have left	She kept crying

Passive Response	Persistent Cry
Disciples wanted her gone â?? she would have obeyed	She refused to be silenced
Jesus seemed to refuse her â?? she would have given up	She found an argument faith could use
Her daughter would have remained bound	Her daughter was made whole from that very hour

She would not take no for an answer. She cried until she got her miracle. That is the kind of prayer that breaks yokes.

David: The Man Who Cried Out with His Voice

â??David was a man who always cried out to God for deliverance when faced with battles. Many times in his Psalms, he wrote about crying out to the Lord for help. For example, in Psalm 3:4, he wrote, â??I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill.'â?•

What David Did	What He Did Not Do
Cried unto the Lord with his voice	Whisper a silent, passive prayer
Called upon God in his distress	Wait silently for deliverance
Made his cry heard	Assume God already knew

â??Just as David cried unto the Lord with his voice, as a child of God, you must also learn to cry unto Him whenever you find yourself in distress.â?•

Psalm 18:6 â?? *â??In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my Godâ?¦â?•*

Davidâ??s Pattern	Your Application
Distress came	When you are distressed, do not suffer in silence
He called and cried	Use your voice. Cry out.
God heard	God will hear you too.

The Problem with Prayer Contractors

â??Nobody can cry better or louder than you about any distressing situation you might find yourself in because you are the only one who knows where the shoe pinches. This is why people who are always running from one place to another in search of prayer contractors â?? people who will pray to God on their behalf â?? often stay in bondage for a long time.â?•

Relying on Prayer Contractors	Crying Out Yourself

Someone else prays for you	You pray for yourself
They do not feel your pain the way you do	You know exactly where it hurts
They may pray passively	You will pray fervently because it is your burden
Often leads to prolonged bondage	Leads to swift deliverance

â??You are the only one who knows where the shoe pinches.â?•

No one else knows the full weight of your burden. No one else feels the exact pain. No one else has as much at stake. You cannot outsource your cry. You must cry out yourself.

God Hears the Genuine Cry

â??In todayâ??s memory verse, David said that he called upon God and cried unto Him in his distress, and God heard him out of His temple. God will never close His ears to a person who cries to Him genuinely and with a contrite heart (Psalm 51:17).â?•

Psalm 51:17 â?? *â??The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.â?•*

What God Despises	What God Will Not Despise
Pride, arrogance, self-sufficiency	A broken spirit
Passive, ritualistic prayer	A contrite heart
Lip service without desperation	A genuine cry of distress

When you cry out from the depths of your pain, God hears. When your heart is broken and your voice is desperate, He does not turn away.

Why You Must Not Grow Weary in Prayer

â??Beloved, you must never grow weary of praying whenever you feel burdened until God hears you; you must be willing to pay the price for freedom in the place of prayer.â?•

The Price of Freedom	The Cost of Passivity
Fervent, persistent prayer	Continued bondage
Crying out until God answers	Staying under the yoke
Refusing to be silenced	Remaining silent and stuck

â??I pray that the Lord will answer you speedily every time you cry unto Him, in Jesusâ?? name.â?•

How to Cry Out to God Effectively (Practical Steps)

Based on Daddy Adeboyeâ??s teaching and the biblical examples, here is how to pray the prayer that breaks yokes:

1. Use Your Voice

Do not pray only in your mind. Do not whisper so quietly that no one can hear. David said, *â??I cried unto the LORD with my voice.â?•* Your voice carries your faith. Your voice disturbs the enemy. Your voice reaches the ears of God.

2. Cry Out with Desperation

Do not pray politely when you are in distress. Do not be concerned with sounding â??spiritualâ?• or â??dignified.â?• Bartimaeus cried out. The Canaanite woman cried out. David cried out. Cry out like your life depends on itâ??because it does.

3. Persist Until You Get an Answer

Do not pray once and give up. Do not pray for five minutes and decide God is not listening. The Canaanite woman persisted. Bartimaeus cried out even louder when the crowd rebuked him. Keep crying. Keep praying. Do not stop until the answer comes.

4. Do Not Outsource Your Cry

It is good to ask others to pray for you. But do not make them your only prayer. You must cry out yourself. No one else feels your pain. No one else knows where the shoe pinches. Cry out directly to God.

5. Come with a Contrite Heart

Do not come with pride, demanding that God serve you. Come with a broken and contrite heart. Acknowledge your need. Acknowledge your helplessness. Cry out from the depths.

Warning: Passive Prayer Keeps You Bound

Daddy Adeboyeâ??s devotional carries an urgent warning: if you are passive in prayer, you will stay in bondage.

Passive Prayer	The Result
Half-hearted, distracted, silent	No results, prolonged bondage
Waiting for someone else to pray for you	Delayed deliverance
Praying once and giving up	The burden remains

> *â??You must never grow weary of praying whenever you feel burdened until God hears you.â?•*

Do not stop crying until the chain breaks. Do not stop crying until the yoke is destroyed. Do not stop crying until you are free.

Conclusion: Your Prayer of Desperate Cry

Daddy Adeboye closes with a prayer that the Lord will answer you speedily every time you cry unto Him. But you must cry. Not passively. Not politely. Cry.

Pray this:

> *â??Lord Jesus, I come to You with my voice. I am in distress. I am under a burden. I have tried passive prayer, and it has not worked. Today, I cry out. Like Bartimaeus, I will not be silenced by the crowd. Like the Canaanite woman, I will persist until I get my answer. Like David, I cry unto You with my voice. Hear me out of Your holy hill. I am desperate. I am broken. I am contrite. I will not grow weary. I will not stop praying until You answer. Remove this yoke. Break these chains. Deliver me from the bondage of the enemy. Answer me speedily, Lord. I cry outâ??and I believe You hear me. In Jesusâ?? mighty name.â?•*

Action Steps:

1. **The Cry Test:** In your next prayer time, do not pray silently. Use your voice. Pray aloud. Let your desperation be heard.
2. **The Persistence Check:** Have you given up on a prayer request too soon? Identify one burden you stopped praying about. Begin crying out again today. Do not stop.
3. **The Prayer Contractor Audit:** Are you relying more on others to pray for you than on your own prayers? Continue to ask for prayer support, but do not neglect your own desperate cry.

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